

# Asheville Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) Report for 2014

Approved by the Asheville Neighborhood Advisory Committee on January 26, 2015

## Calendar of Highlights of NAC Activities in 2014-2015:

<b>January 27</b>	Draft Community Policing proposal; Community Identifying signs
<b>February 24</b>	Community Surveying expert; Asheville Greenworks; Police Department proposal
<b>March 24</b>	Central area meeting
<b>April 28</b>	Short Term Rentals
<b>May 2</b>	Coffee and Conversation follow up to Festival red/orange/blue/purple/green
<b>May 19</b>	North Area Meeting
<b>June 23</b>	Affordable Housing; Neighborhood sidewalks; Teddy Jordan replaces Carmen Ramos-Kennedy
<b>June 27</b>	Retreat: Development of Vision, Mission, Goals, and Action Steps
<b>July 29</b>	Solid Waste Taskforce meeting
<b>August 25</b>	Approve Vision/mission/goals
<b>September 22</b>	West Area Meeting
<b>October 27</b>	Neighborhood Portal Website; Affordable Housing Conversation with CAN; the State of Black Asheville Report
<b>November 24</b>	Begin compiling Neighborhood profiles for website
<b>January 12</b>	Development of final report and planning for 2015 Festival of Neighborhoods
<b>January 26</b>	Finalize Annual Report and Recommendations

**Coffee and Conversation:** On May 2 there was a follow-up meeting to the Festival of Neighborhoods last October. The committee devised a series of 9 questions to begin gathering information from the neighborhood groups. Leaders from 34 groups met at the Public Works building and the 9 members of the committee interviewed and recorded responses. One member transcribed the responses which are summarized and analyzed in the addendum to this report.

**Area Community Meetings:** This year NAC held general meetings in three of the city's five regions. On March 24 NAC held its **Central area meeting** at the Public Works Building. On May 19 they held a **North area meeting** at the North Asheville Library and September 22 the **West area meeting** was held at the West Asheville Library. These completed the committee's goal of holding meetings in each of the five regions. (**East** and **South** were completed in 2013.) The responses from all areas were collected, summarized and analyzed in the addendum to this report.

**Planning Retreat:** On June 27 the committee met to refocus and articulate our vision, mission and goals. This was a useful exercise facilitated by David Carr from Human Resources. The revised vision, mission, goals and objectives are presented in the addendum to this report.

**REPORT FROM THE NEIGHBORHOODS:** Over the last two years the committee has met with about 50 of the organized neighborhoods in every area of the City of Asheville. These neighborhoods are a diverse group racially, economically and socially who care about their neighborhoods and love their city. Their biggest concern centered on the issue of traffic. Traffic calming, increased traffic, cut through and truck traffic are commonly expressed concerns throughout our neighborhoods. The next biggest concerns are sidewalks and pedestrian safety followed by neighborhood safety including drug traffic and break-ins. The committee created a matrix of expressed neighborhood concerns to plot which areas had these and other issues, which is included as an attachment to this report.